

GAIN Working Group 1

Information Sharing Proof-of-Concept

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Long Beach Hilton
Long Beach, California



Overview

- WG1 Participants
- Goals
- Background
- Major Activities
- Sharing Library Concept
- Lessons Learned
- Sharing System Architecture
- Proposed Next Steps for WG1
- Conclusions



Working Group 1 Participants

Abacus Technology Corporation FAA

Aer Lingus Flight Data Company

Airbus Industrie ICAO

Aircraft Engineers International Japan Airlines

AlliedSignal Lockheed Martin Energy Systems

Aviation Research, Incorporated NASA

Boeing Commercial Airplane Group Oak Ridge National Laboratory

British Midland Pratt & Whitney

Continental Airlines Rockwell Collins

DOT Volpe Systems CenterThe SABRE Group/AMR

EUCARE Transport Canada



Goals

- Work the GAIN concept in microcosm
- Show what could be accomplished with limited information with a limited number of organizations involved
- Begin to identify and address problems of sharing information



Background

- Held eight meetings since last GAIN conference
 - Aer Lingus Dublin
 - Airbus Industrie Toulouse
 - America West Airlines Phoenix
 - DOT Volpe Systems Center Boston
 - FAA Washington (4 meetings)
- Developed definitions for data and information
- Developed rules for sharing information within the Working Group



Major Activities

- Shared safety information on cross-section of safety issues (aircraft performance, flight ops, ATC, maintenance, dispatch, etc.)
 - Analyzed 4 event types: asymmetric thrust, tail strikes, air data events, and loading errors
- Focus changed from safety analysis to facilitation of information sharing
 - Interactive Airline Safety Information Sharing Library



Purpose of Sharing Library

- Demonstrate feasibility of organizing and disseminating *published* safety information from diverse sources:
 - Airlines
 - Airframe/Engine Manufacturers
 - Confidential reporting systems
 - Civil aviation authorities
 - Other aviation organizations



Library Characteristics

- For use by airline flight safety offices
- Published information on incidents
- De-identified information to protect airline, individuals
- No interpretation or analysis added



Library Information Processing

Collection

 Approval from 7 airlines and 8 other safety publication sources; 100+ articles selected

• De-identification

Identifying information removed (airlines, locations, names, dates)

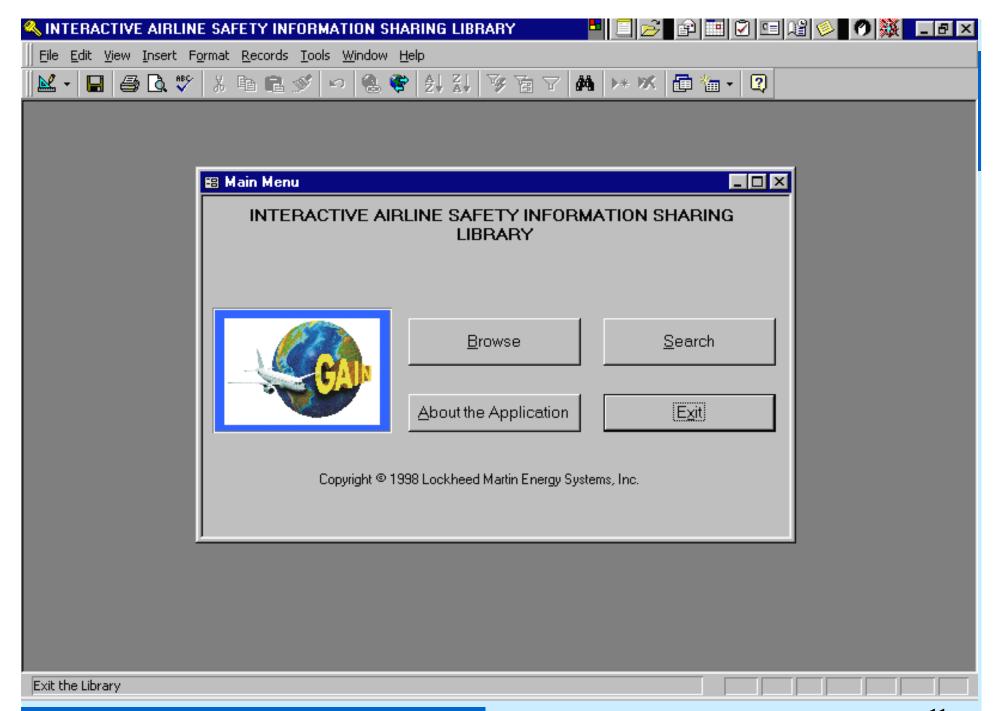
Coding

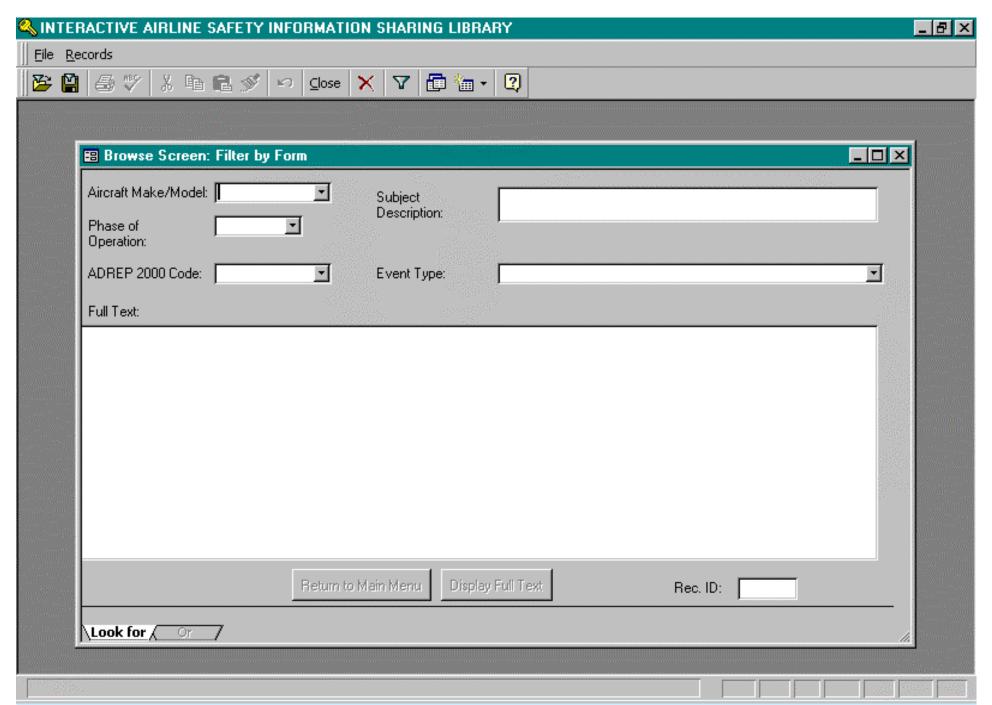
Aircraft make/model, phase of operation, ICAO
 ADREP 2000 incident/event type, detailed subject

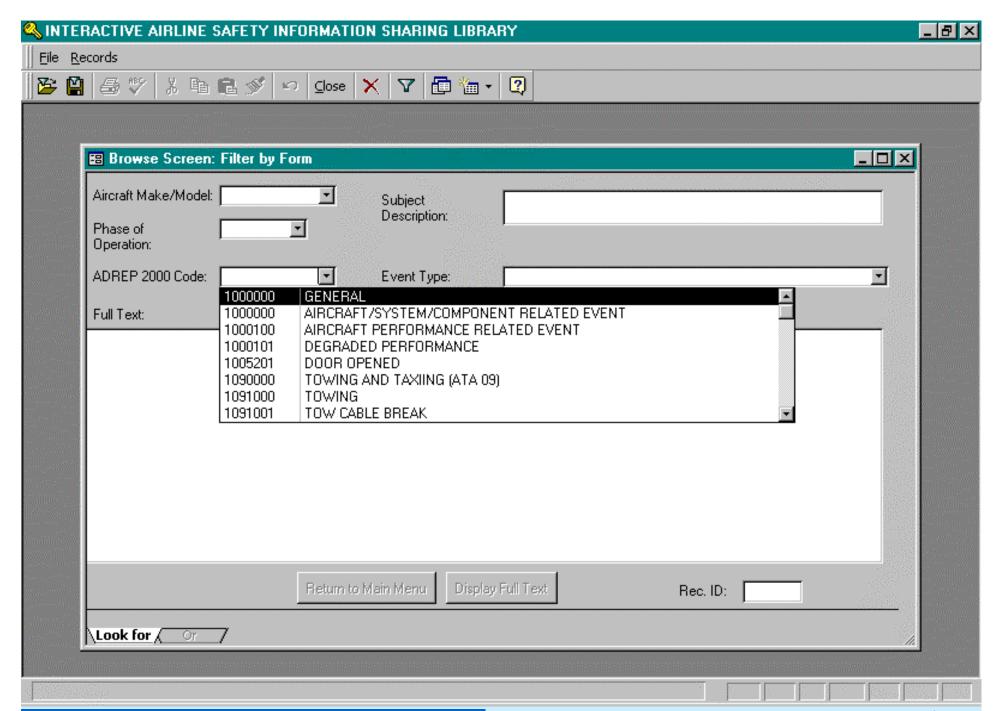


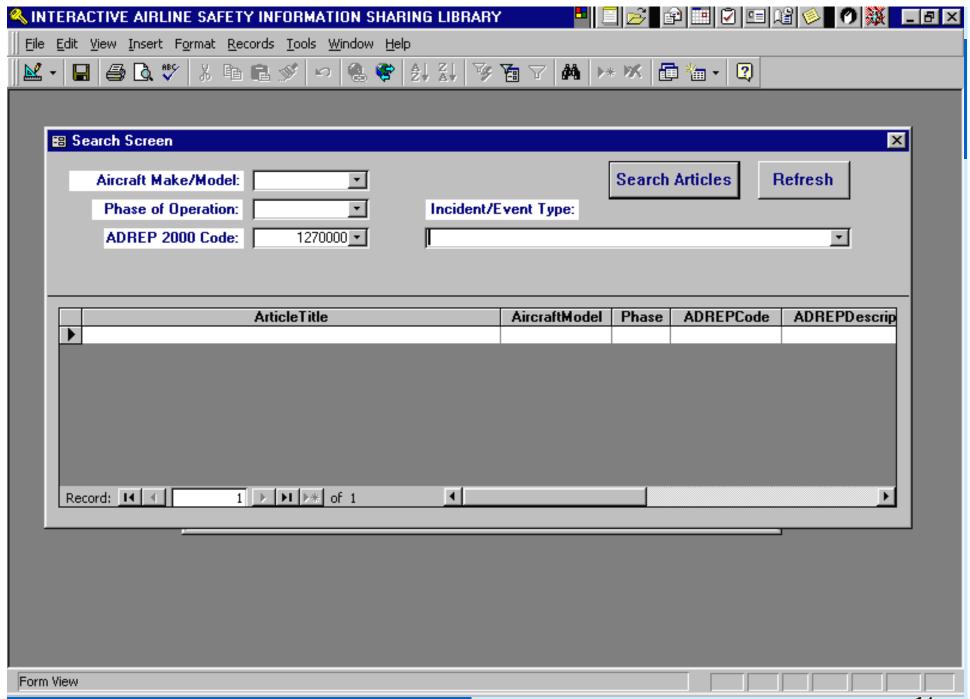
Library Security

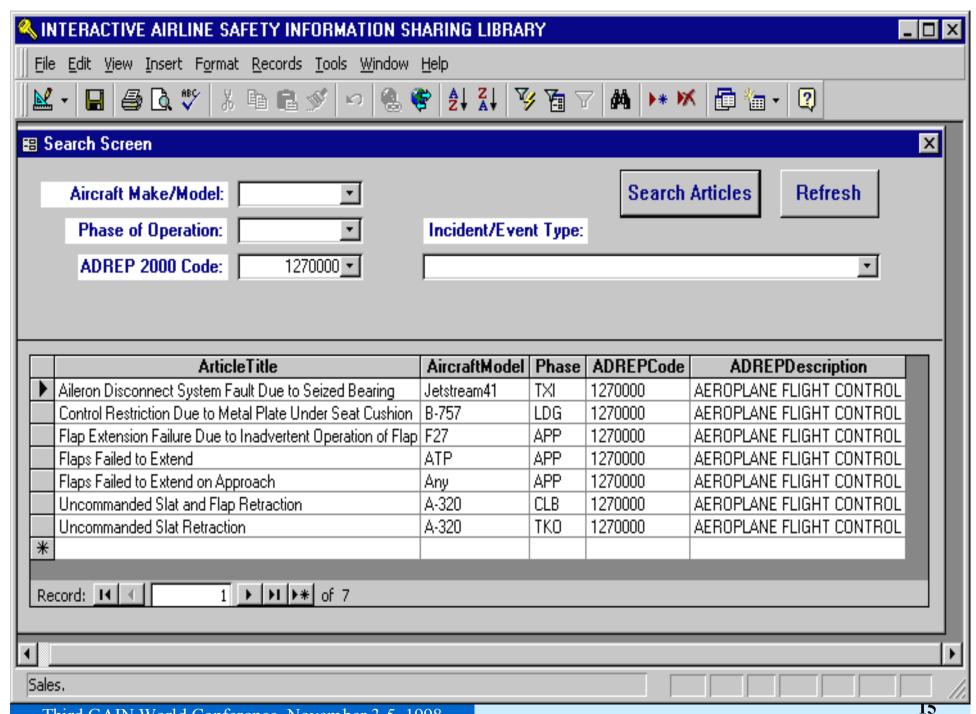
- "Stand alone" PC
- Physically secured
- Password-protected
- Limited access
- Contents to be erased by Dec. 31, 1998













Lessons Learned for GAIN

- It is very difficult to share information on safety events outside an airline or manufacturer
- Sharing this information is possible only by:
 - Protecting the information
 - Ensuring proper use of the information
 - Sharing systems working together
 - Showing safety improvement



Protecting Information

- Information sharing agreements
- Available on "need to know" basis only
- Appropriate levels of communications security
- Sensitive information destroyed after review



Ensuring Proper Use of Information

- Information sharing agreements
- Level of sharing depends on user and "need to know"
- Minimum acceptable quality observed
- Terminology, taxonomies and formats standardized



Sharing Systems Working Together

- Information sharing agreements
- Standard electronic interface to link systems
- Flexible and multi-media sharing mechanisms
- Common interest in safety emphasized



Showing Safety Improvement

- Emphasis on safety improvements, not deficiencies
- Internal use of safety information and follow-up procedures expanded
- Feedback on safety improvements provided to external users of safety information

GAIN Conceptual Sharing System Architecture

Standards Administrator

- Incident Record Standards
- Interchange Protocol Standard Definitions
- Security Administration
- Access Agreement Management





Malifer

Approved Flight Safety Manager

- Secure PC
- Incident Record Handling Agreement
- Secure Network Access

Current Systems

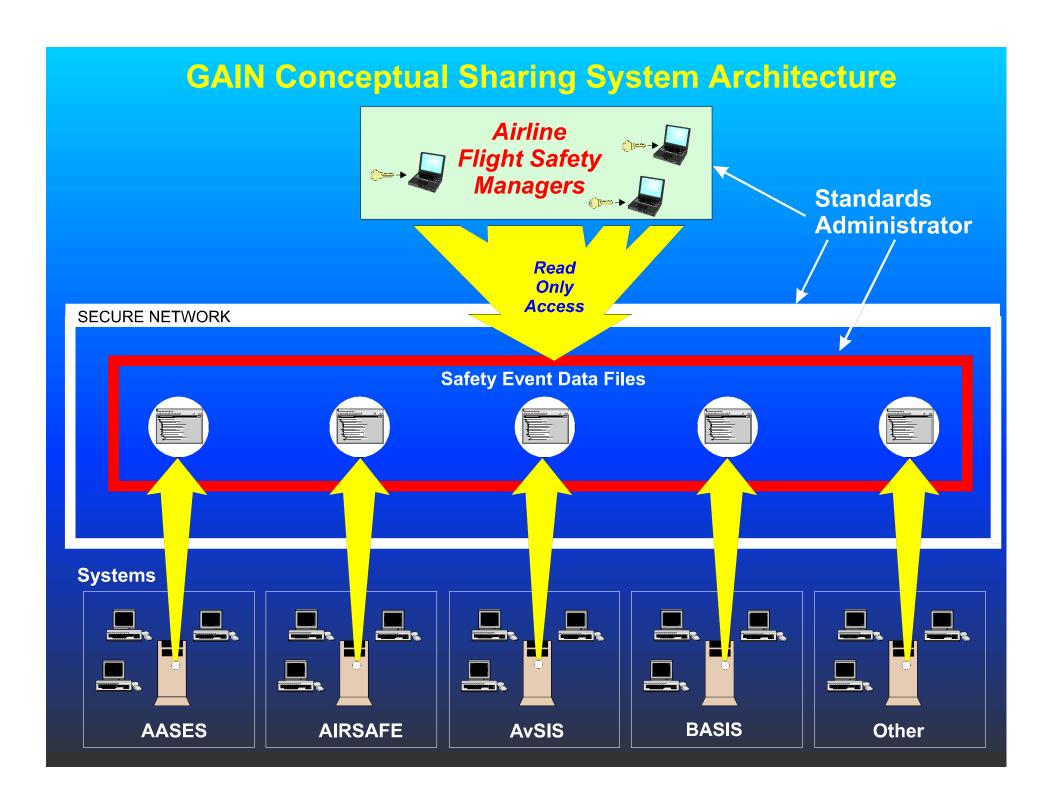
- Input to Safety Incident Files
- Approved Flt. Safety Manager Listing
- Record Handling Agreement
- Individual Users Agreement

Safety Event Data Files



THE WAY

RECOR





Proposed Next Steps for WG1

- Modify WG1 charter to include facilitation of a prototype global airline information sharing network of systems
- Expand and diversify WG1 membership
- Determine level of interest in further development of sharing library. WG1 could:
 - Incorporate additional safety information
 - Add more functionality



Conclusions

- Trust at a personal level is a prerequisite to enable sharing of safety information.
- Sharing of information analyzed by the airline is an initial step towards building a global airline safety information sharing process.
- GAIN will enable airline safety reporting systems to share information in a secure manner by providing an infrastructure and maintaining operating standards.